

MADAM SPEAKER.— The question is :

“That the Charitable Endowments (Mysore Amendment) Bill, 1973 be passed.”

*The motion was adopted and the Bill was Passed.*

**Statement by the Minister for Public Works and Electricity**  
re : Power cut in the State

† Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.— Madam Speaker, with your permission, I would like to make this important statement for the information of this House.

A cut on the energy consumption of consumers in Mysore State has been in operation since 1st October 1972. This cut was introduced after taking into consideration the estimated energy generation that could be made primarily in the Sharavathi Valley and the other smaller Generating Stations in the system, immediately after the cessation of the monsoons when the energy supply position in the State till the onset of the next monsoons during 1973 could be correctly assessed. The implementation of the cut on energy consumption has been quite successful and in practice an effective cut of 20–22% on the estimated monthly energy consumption has been realised. With the available resources it is estimated that we could continue to operate the system without further cuts on energy consumption till about the middle of June 1973.

Normally the monsoons in the catchment of the Sharavathi river which is the major source of power generation in the State breaks out during the first week of June. There have also been preliminary forecasts from the Meteorological department that it is possible that the monsoons this year may break out earlier, probably during the last week of May. However, it is necessary to have a contingency plan, to be put into effect at short notice, in the event of monsoons being delayed even beyond the first week of June, in order to ensure that the essential services in the State like water supply, power supply to hospitals, irrigation and other priority sectors is not disrupted. With this object in view it is

proposed that in the event of there being no inflows into Linganamakki Reservoir in the Sharavathi catchment even by the end of first week of June, the power cut to H. T. consumers be increased from the present 25% to 50%. It is estimated that the total consumption of H. T. industries in the State without power cut is of the order of 240 million units per month. If the present cut of 25% on this consumption is increased to 50% we will be saving about 45 million units from 8-6-1973 to end of June 1983. With this cut it will be possible to continue power supply to other categories of consumers with 25% power cut as at present, till end of June 73. The Board has prepared plans to put the above proposition of increasing the power cut on H. T. Consumers from 25 to 50% in the event of monsoons in the Sharavathi Valley not breaking out even by the end of first week of June.

**Sri M. S. KRISHNAN.**—From the statement which the Minister has now made and the statement which he made a few day before, there seems to be a thorough-going contradiction between the two. A few days before the very same Minister stated that things had improved and there is going to be concession shown to domestic consumers. Now from what he stated, it appears that further cut in electricity consumption is contemplated even before anything is definitely known about the onset of monsoon. Is it correct for him to judge on the basis of presumption and come to conclusion?

**Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.**—The hon. member has not followed my statement and therefore, he is under misapprehension. I will send a copy of my statement to him and to all the other members. The point is: it is only in the event of the monsoon not breaking on the due date, we will be compelled to increase the cut from 25 to 50% only to high tension consumers so that we may keep the power cut at 25% to all other categories for another week. That is the idea.

**Sri M. S. KRISHNAN.**—I thank the Minister very much.